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Trade With Red China:

Britain's Blood Money

By FULTON LEWIS JR.

WASHINGTON: In a recent get-together in Moscow, British businessmen made a deal to sell \$28,000,000 worth of supplies to Communist China.

British ships are now delivering the goods, being careful, however, to stay away from Korea where British troops are being killed by these same Chinese Reds. Textiles, chemicals, machinery and other supplies fill the holds of the British vessels involved, which return to Liverpool loaded with raw materials from China.

Chinese Reds, via Moscow also are dickering with the British for another \$1,300,000,000 worth of manufactured goods and British tractor and automobile manufacturers are drooling over the prospective Chinese market.

Nobody ever won a war without a strong economy. If Communist China builds one it will be due considerably to generous help from British tradesmen, sanctioned by British Government officials. They seem to have no hesitancy whatsoever in feeding to the Reds in China materials which will be used to kill British troops in Korea.

Passports to Russia

British Communists and Left-Wingers are granted passports to Russia, China and other iron curtain countries. Most of them return singing the Soviet hymn of peace and progress. One, Joseph Needham, a British scientist and one-time director of the United Nations Economic, Social and Cultural Organization, visited Communist North Korea in late 1952, returning to inform the British Government that he had "proof" our troops are using germ warfare against the Reds.

In a recent speech in Parliament a British official indicated that "appropriate" steps would be taken if an American blockade of the China coast interfered with British shipping.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles seems to put too much credence in such threats. He has been trying to knock down the idea that the American Navy has, or will get, orders to halt shipping to Communist China. He may or may not be right.

What the Eisenhower Administration could and should do is lend Chiang Kai-shek 25 or so "overage" American destroyers or other small combat craft and let the Chinese Nationalist Government on Formosa set up its own blockade. In exchange, the Nationalists probably would be willing to accept our technical advice and even allow us a mountain peak or two on Formosa to establish a radar screen to assist them in the blockade.

Surely Britain's Left Wingers would not criticize this. In 1940, at the direction of the late President Roosevelt, we sent the British 50 "overage" destroyers in exchange for long-term leases on two Atlantic Ocean bases belonging to the British Commonwealth. British Reds and Left Wingers applauded that action.

Want to Know All

The British are, of course, demanding to know everything we are going to do to end the war in Korea before we do it. When our officials accede to these demands, as they probably will, there are a few questions they could ask the British.

For instance, since the British have recognized the Communist Government in China, what will they do when Chiang Kai-shek sends troops and supplies to Korea? Will the British allow Nationalist soldiers to fight alongside the British brigades in Korea? Will British naval vessels attempt to stop Nationalist ships carrying the troops and weapons to Korea, if Chiang sets up a blockade of the China coast?

We ought to know about these things before we start telling the British our Korean plans.

British trade with the Communists and British recognition of Communist China are hardly popular in the United States; but that does not stop the British from doing both.

The British don't like the idea of a U. S. blockade of China, nor do they like the idea of using Nationalist troops in Korea or China. That should not stop us from doing either, if strategy calls for it.